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UNDERHAND, *adj.* Secret; clandestine; fly.
I had notice of my brother's purpose, and have, by *underhand* means, laboured to dissuade him. *Shakespeare.*
I should take it as a very great favour from some of my *underhand* detractors, if they would break all measures with me. *Addison's Spectator*, N^o. 262.
UNDERLABOURER, *n. f.* [under and labourer.] A subordinate workman.
About the carriage of one stone for Amasis, the distance of twenty days journey, for three years were employed two thousand chosen men, governors, besides many *underlabourers*. *Wilkins's Mathematical Magick.*
UNDERLINED, *adj.* [from *derived*.] Not borrowed.
The ideas it is busied about should be, sometimes at least, those more congenial ones, which it had in itself, *underlined* from the body. *Locke.*
UNDERLAY, *v. a.* [under and lay.] To strengthen by something laid under.
UNDERLEAF, *n. f.* [under and leaf.] A species of apple. See *Apple*.
The *underleaf*, whose cyder is best at two years, is a plentiful bearer. *Mortimer's Art of Husbandry.*
UNDERLINE, *v. a.* [under and line.] To mark with lines below the words.
By mere chance in appearance, though *underlined* with a providence, they had a full fight of the infants. *Wotton.*
UNDERLING, *n. f.* [from *under*.] An inferior agent; a forry, mean fellow.
The great men, by ambition never satisfied, grew fadious; and the *underlings*, glad indeed to be *underlings* to them they hated least, to preserve them from such they hated most. *Sidney.*
Hereby the heads of the Septs are made stronger, whom it should be a most special policy to weaken, and to set up and strengthen divers of their *underlings* against them. *Spenser.*
The fault is not in our stars,
But in ourselves, that we are *underlings*. *Shakespeare.*
O'er all his brethren he shall reign as king,
Yet every one shall make him *underling*. *Milton.*
They may print this letter, if the *underlings* at the post-office take a copy of it. *Pope and Swift.*
A fort of *underling* auxiliaries to the difficulty of a work, are commentators and critics, who frighten many by their number and bulk.
TO UNDERMINE, *v. a.* [under and mine.]
1. To dig cavities under any thing, so that it may fall, or be blown up; to sap.
Though the foundation on a rock were laid,
The church was *undermin'd* and then betray'd. *Denham.*
An injudicious endeavour to exalt Virgil, is much the same, as if one should think to raise the superstructure by *undermining* the foundation. *Pope's Preface to the Iliad.*
2. To excavate under.
A vast rock *undermin'd* from one end to the other, and a highway running through it, as long and as broad as the mail. *Addison's Remarks on Italy.*
3. To injure by clandestine means.
Making the king's sword strike whom they hated, the king's purse reward whom they loved; and, which is worst of all, making the royal countenance serve to *undermine* the royal sovereignty. *Sidney.*
They, knowing Eleanor's aspiring humour,
Have hir'd me to *undermine* the dutchess. *Shakespeare.*
The father secure,
Ventures his filial virtue,
Against whate'er may tempt, whate'er seduce,
Allure or terrify, or *undermine*. *Milton.*
The *undermining* smile becomes habitual; and the drift of his plausible conversation, is only to flatter one, that he may betray another. *Dryden.*
He should be warn'd who are like to *undermine* him, and who to serve him. *Locke on Education.*
UNDERMINER, *n. f.* [from *undermine*.]
1. He that saps; he that digs away the supports.
The enemies and *underminers* thereof are Romish Catholics. *Bacon.*
2. A clandestine enemy.
When I perceiv'd all set on enmity,
As on my enemies, where-ever chance'd,
I us'd hostility, and took their spoil.
To pay my *underminers* in their coin. *Milton's Agonistes.*
The most experienced disturbers and *underminers* of government, have always laid their first train in contempt, endeavouring to blow it up in the judgment and esteem of the subject. *South's Sermons.*
UNDERMOST, *adj.* [This is a kind of superlative, anomalously formed from *under*.]
1. Lowest in place.
Ung oil of almonds, we drew up with the *undermost* stone a much greater weight. *Boyle.*
2. Lowest in state or condition.
It happens well for the party that is *undermost*; when a work

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of this nature falls into the hands of those, who content themselves to attack their principles, without exposing their persons.
This opinion, taken up by other sectaries, was to last no longer than they were *undermost*. *Atterbury.*
UNDERNEATH, *adv.* [Compounded from *under* and *neath*; of which we still retain the comparative *neath*, but in adverbial sense use *beneath*.] In the lower place; below; under; beneath.
Forthwith up to the clouds
With him I flew, and *underneath* beheld
The earth outstretch'd immense, a prospect wide. *Milton.*
And as I awake, sweet music breathe
Above, about, or *underneath*;
Sent by some spirit to mortals good. *Milton.*
Or fullen Mole that runneth *underneath*;
Or Severn swift, guilty of maidens death. *Milton.*
The monster caught in open day,
Inclos'd, and in despair to fly away,
Howls horrible from *underneath*. *Dryden.*
The state did not lie flat upon it, but left a free passage *underneath*. *Addison.*
UNDERNEATH, *prep.* Under.
Fellows in arms,
Bruis'd *underneath* the yoke of tyranny,
Thus far into the bowels of the land
Have we march'd on. *Shakespeare.*
Pray God, the prove not masculine ere long!
If *underneath* the standard of the French
She carry armour, as the hath begun. *Shakespeare's Hen. VI.*
Underneath this stone doth lie,
As much beauty as could die;
Which in life did harbour give,
To more virtue than could live. *B. Johnson.*
What is, hath been; what hath been shall ensue;
And nothing *underneath* the sun is new. *Sandys's Paraphrase.*
The north and south, and each contending blast,
Are *underneath* his wide dominion cast. *Dryden.*
UNDEROFFICER, *n. f.* [under and officer.] An inferior officer; one in subordinate authority.
This certificate of excommunication by bishops, of all others, is most in use; and would be more so, were it not for the manifold abuses about its execution committed by *underofficers*. *Ayliffe's Pavegen.*
TO UNDERPIN, *v. a.* [under and pin.] To prop; to support.
Victors, to secure themselves against disputes of that kind,
underpin their acquiet *jure belli*. *Hale's Common Law.*
UNDERPRIZING, *adj.* Not derogatory.
Of our happiness the apostle gives a negative description; and to create in us apprehensions *underprizing* from what we shall possess, exalts them above all that we can fancy. *Boyle.*
UNDERPART, *n. f.* [under and part.] Subordinate, or unessential part.
The English will not bear a thorough tragedy, but are pleased that it should be lightened with *underparts* of mirth. *Dryden.*
UNDERPETTICOAT, *n. f.* [under and petticoat.] The petticoat worn next the body.
They go to bed as tired with doing nothing, as I after quilting a whole *under-petticoat*. *Spectator*, N^o. 666.
UNDERPLOT, *n. f.* [under and plot.]
1. A series of events proceeding collaterally with the main story of a play, and subservient to it.
In a tragedy, there is to be but one main design; and though there be an *underplot*, yet it is subservient to the chief fable. *Dryden's Dedication to Jivinal.*
2. A clandestine scheme.
The husband is so misled by tricks, and so lost in a crooked intrigue, that he still suspects an *underplot*. *Addison.*
TO UNDERPRAISE, *v. a.* [under and praise.] To praise below desert.
In *underpraising* thy deserts,
Here find the first deficiency of our tongue. *Dryden.*
TO UNDERPRIZE, *v. a.* [under and prize.] To value at less than the worth.
How far
The substance of my praise doth wrong this shadow
In *underprizing* it; so far this shadow
Doth limp behind the substance. *Shakespeare.*
TO UNDERPROP, *v. a.* [under and prop.] To support; to sustain.
Here am I left to *underprop* the land.
Whe, weak with age, cannot support myself. *Shakespeare.*
There was made a shoring or *underproping* act for the benevolence; to make the fums not brought in, to be leviable by course of law. *Bacon's Hen. VII.*
Thou that art us'd to attend the royal throne,
And *underprop* the head that bears the crown. *Fenton.*
UNDERPROPORTIONED, *adj.* [under and proportion.] Having too little proportion.
To be haughty, and to make scanty and *underproportioned* returns of civility, plainly tells people, they must be very mannerly. *Collier on Pride.*
UNDERPULLER

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UNDERPULLER, *n. f.* [under and puller.] Inferiour or subordinate puller.
The mystery of seconds and thirds is such a master-piece, that no description can reach. These *underpullers* in destruction are such implicit mortals as are not to be matched. *Collier.*
TO UNDERRATE, *v. a.* [under and rate.] To rate too low.
UNDERRATE, *n. f.* [from the verb.] A price less than is usual.
The useless brute is from Newmarket brought,
And at an *underrate* in Smithfield bought. *Dryden.*
To turn a mill. *Dryden.*
TO UNDERSAY, *v. n.* [under and say.] To say by way of derogation. Not in use.
They say, they con to heaven the highway;
But I dare *undersay*,
They never set foot on that same trode,
But balke their right way, and strain abroad. *Spenser.*
UNDERSCRETARY, *n. f.* [under and secretary.] An inferior or subordinate secretary.
The Jews have a tradition, that Elias sits in heaven, and keeps a register of all men's actions, good or bad. He hath his *underscretaries* for the several nations, that takes minutes of all that passes. *Bacon's Theory of the Earth.*
TO UNDERSELL, *v. a.* [under and sell.] To defeat, by selling for less; to sell cheaper than another.
Their stock being rated at six in the hundred, they may, with great gain, *undersell* us, our stock being rated at ten. *Child's Discourse of Trade.*
UNDERSERVANT, *n. f.* [under and servant.] A servant of the lower class.
Besides the nerves, the bones, as *underservants*, with the muscles, are employed to raise him up. *Grew's Cosmology.*
TO UNDERSET, *v. a.* [under and set.] To prop; to support.
The merchant-adventurers, being a strong company, and well *underset* with rich men, and good order, held out bravely. *Bacon's Hen. VII.*
UNDERTTER, *n. f.* [from *under* and *ter*.] Prop; pedestal; support.
The four corners thereof had *undertters*. *1 Kings vii. 30.*
UNDERTTING, *n. f.* [from *under* and *ter*.] Lower part; pedestal. Their *underttings*, or pedestals, are, in height, a third part of the column. *Wotton's Architecture.*
UNDERTWIFF, *n. f.* [under and sherriff.] The deputy of the sherriff.
Since 'tis my doom, love's *undertwiffe*,
Why this relieve?
Why doth my the adwown fly?
Cleveland's Poems.
UNDERSHERIFF, *n. f.* [from *undersheriff*.] The business, or office of an *undersheriff*.
The cardinals of Rome call all temporal business, of wars and embassages, *sherriffia*, which is *undersheriffia*; as if they were but matters for *undersheriffs* and catchpoles; though many times those *undersheriffs* do more good than their high speculations. *Bacon.*
UNDERSHOOT, *part. adj.* [under and shoot.] Moved by water passing under it.
The imprisoned water payeth the ransom of diving an *undershoot* wheel for his enlargement. *Carew's Surv. of Cornwall.*
UNDERSONG, *n. f.* [under and song.] Chorus; or burden of a song. So ended the; and all the rest around
To her redoubled that her *undersong*. *Spenser.*
The challenge to Dametas shall belong;
Menalcas shall sustain his *undersong*.
Each in his turn your tuneful numbers bring. *Dryden.*
TO UNDERSTAND, *v. a.* preterite *understood*. [unseparated from *understand*.]
1. To comprehend fully; to have knowledge of.
The Ulysses of Ovid upbraids his ignorance, that he *understood* not the shield for which he pleaded. *Dryden.*
2. To conceive.
His sin might have been greater in that respect: but that it was not so to be *understood*, appears by the opposition.
The most learned interpreters *understood* the words of sin, and not of Abel. *Locke.*
TO UNDERSTAND, *v. n.*
1. To have use of the intellectual faculties; to be an intelligent or conscious being.
I have given thee a wife and *understanding* heart. *Chronicles.*
2. To be informed.
I *understood* of the evil Elias did. *Neb. xiii. 7.*
I *understood* by Sanga, you have been
Solicited against the commonwealth
By one Umbrenus. *B. Johnson's Cataline.*
All my soul be
Imparadis'd in you, in whom alone
I *understand*, and grow, and see. *Donne.*
UNDERSTANDING, *n. f.* [from *understand*.]
1. Intellectual powers; faculties of the mind, especially those of knowledge and judgment.

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I speak as my *understanding* instructs me, and as mine honesty puts it to utterance. *Shakespeare's Winter Tale.*
Make him of quick *understanding* in the fear of the Lord. *Isaiah.*
It maketh day-light *understanding*, out of darkness. *Bacon.*
When the rates things, and moves from ground to ground,
The name of reason she obtains by this:
But when by reason she the truth hath found,
And standeth fix'd, the *understanding* is. *Davies.*
Life and sense,
Fancy and *understanding*: whence the soul
Reason receives, and reason is her being. *Milton.*
God is to the *understanding* of man, as the light of the sun is to our eyes, its first and most glorious object. *Tilleyson.*
2. Skill.
The *understandings* of a senate are often enslaved by three or four leaders. *Swift.*
Right *understanding* consists in the perception of the visible or probable agreement or disagreement of ideas. *Locke.*
Very mean people have raised their minds to a great sense and *understanding* of religion. *Locke.*
3. Intelligence; terms of communication.
He hoped the loyalty of his subjects would concur with him in the preserving of a good *understanding* between him and his people. *Clarendon.*
We have got into some *understanding* with the enemy, by means of Don Diego. *Abulmar.*
UNDERSTANDING, *adj.* Knowing; skilful.
The present physician is a very *understanding* man, and well read. *Addison's Remarks on Italy.*
UNDERSTANDINGLY, *adv.* [from *understand*.] With knowledge.
Sundays may be *understandingly* spent in theology. *Milton.*
UNDERSTOOD, *pret. and part. passive of understand.*
UNDERSTRAPPER, *n. f.* [under and strap.] A petty fellow; an inferior agent.
Every *understrapper* perk'd up, and expected a regiment, or his son must be a major. *Swift.*
TO UNDERTAKE, *v. a.* preterite *undertook*; participle passive *undertaken*. [unseparated from *undertake*.]
1. To attempt; to engage in.
The talk he *undertakes*
Is numbring sands, and drinking oceans dry. *Shakespeare.*
Hence our generous emulation came;
We *undertook*, and we perform'd the same. *Reformers.*
Fiercer than cannon, and than rocks more hard,
The English *undertake* th' unequal war. *Dryden.*
Of dangers *undertaken*, fame achiev'd,
They talk by turns. *Dryden.*
2. To assume a character. Not in use.
His name and credit shall you *undertake*;
And in my house you shall be friendly lodg'd. *Shakespeare.*
3. To engage with; to attack.
It is not fit your lordship should *undertake* every companion, that you give offence to. *Shakespeare's Cymbeline.*
You'll *undertake* her no more?
Shakespeare.
4. To have the charge of.
To th' water-side I must conduct your grace,
Then give my charge up to Sir Nicholas Vaux,
Who *undertakes* you to your end. *Shakespeare's Hen. VIII.*
TO UNDERTAKE, *v. n.*
1. To assume any business or province.
O Lord, I am oppress'd, *undertake* for me. *Isa. xxxviii. 34.*
I *undertook* alone to wing th' abyss. *Milton.*
2. To venture; to hazard.
It is the cowith terror of his spirit;
That dare not *undertake*. *Shakespeare's K. Lear.*
3. To promise; to stand bound to some condition.
If the curious search the hills after rains, I dare *undertake* they will not lose their labour. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*
UNDERTAKEN, *part. passive of undertake.*
UNDERTAKER, *n. f.* [from *undertake*.]
1. One who engages in projects and affairs.
Antrim was naturally a great *undertaker*. *Clarendon.*
Undertakers in Rome purchase the digging of fields, and arrive at great estates by it. *Addison.*
This serves to free the enquiry from the perplexities that some *undertakers* have encumber'd it with. *Woodward.*
Oblige thy favorite *undertakers*
To throw me in but twenty acres. *Prior.*
2. One who engages to build for another at a certain price.
Should they build as fast as write,
'Twould ruin *undertakers* quite. *Swift's Miscellany.*
3. One who manages funerals.
UNDERTAKING, *n. f.* [from *undertake*.] Attempt; enterprise; engagement.
Mighty men they are called; which sheweth a strength surpassing others: and men of renown, that is, of great *undertaking* and adventurous actions. *Raleigh's Hist. of the World.*
If this seem too great an *undertaking* for the humour of our age, then such a sum of money ought to lie ready for taking off all such pieces of cloth as shall be brought in. *Temple.*
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